



Logbook of the World facilities

Times they are a-changing. The majority of South African DXers have already learned the joys of confirming new countries through the Logbook of the World.

Instead of waiting for months or years like in the olden days, most of us now wait days or weeks for confirmations. In addition, it is free! DXCC applications are now routinely processed within a week.

Unfortunately, LoTW currently only makes provision for the ARRL's DX Century Club (or DXCC), Worked All States and VHF/UHF Century Club (or VUCC). Support for other awards is still being implemented.

Several South Africans are now actively chasing US States using LoTW confirmations only. Participants include ZS2DL, ZS2EZ, ZS2Y, ZS4TX and ZS6EZ. Most of them have already completed several bands and modes.

For other awards, paper cards are still mostly required. Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P, the League's Awards Manager, can check cards for most awards, including DXCC. Donovan van Loggerenberg, ZS2DL, or Chris Burger, ZS6EZ can check CQ Magazine awards, including Worked All Zones. Contact them directly for more information. You can see a list of South African award holders on zs6ez.org.za/lists.

A great thanks to Tjerk, Donovan and Chris for their, also free, unselfish service to fellow radio amateurs.

QSL Manager of the Year Award

John, K1XN, announced this past week, "The Golist QSL Manager Data Service is reviving its 'QSL Manager of the Year Award'. The purpose of this award is to recognize the service of QSL Managers worldwide for the service they provide to the World Wide Amateur Community. Nominations for this award will be accepted by the Golist from DX and Contest clubs, world wide, for the year of 2012.



Each DX club and Contest club is encouraged to poll their members for their nominations for the Top 5 QSL Managers for 2012. The definition of a QSL Manager for this award is any person that confirms contacts via QSL Card for any station other than their Primary Call Sign.

Each club should tabulate the votes of their members and submit to the Golist the Top 5 vote getters as voted by members of their club. Votes should be tabulated and sent to the Golist by 1 August 2012, to be eligible for the QSL Manager of the Year award. Each club worldwide may only send one submission for voting purposes. The Golist will maintain records of submission.

A plaque, donated by QRZ-DX / THE DX MAGAZINE, will be awarded to the QSL Manager of the Year selected at the W4DXCC Convention held in Pigeon Forge Tennessee in September 2012.

The recognized format for your clubs submission is as follows - In the Body of the Message, include Club Name, Club Officer (Name, Call Sign, club office and email address) and Top 5 QSL Manager Nominees (list name and call sign). In the subject line of your official email: QSL Manager of the Year-2012."

December

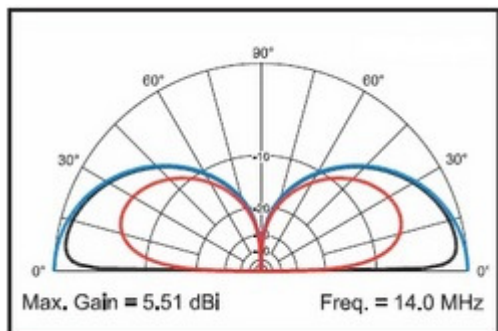
2 to 4 - ARRL 160 metre contest
9 Schools close
10 to 11 - ARRL 10 metre contest
16 Day of Reconciliation
18 Stew Perry Top Band Challenge
25 Christmas Day
26 Family Day, DARC Christmas Contest
31 end of 2011 CQ DX Marathon

January 2012

1 New Years Day; start of the 2012 CQ Marathon
2 Public Holiday
11 Coastal schools open
18 Inland schools open
20 - 22 PEARS National VHF/UHF Contest
25 SARL 80 metre Club Contest
28 Summer QRP Contest

The Doctor Is In: Ground Conductivity and Radiation Elevation Patterns

Stan Korzep, W8NNX, of Orlando, Florida, was wondering that if he improved his ground conductivity, would he also improve his radiation elevation pattern. With this in mind, he wrote to the Doctor, "Late last night, as I pondered why - with 10 metres so hot - I was not working any DX stations in the Asia Pacific region. My first thought was that the competition was too great. I still use the three-element trap Yagi that was on my tower in the 1980s when I had much better luck. Thanks to my power company, I have a far field noise source that allows a pretty good check of antenna pattern, F/B and the ability to determine if there is a gain compared to my other antennas. With a pretty good SWR, and greater than 20 dB F/B, I believe that the tribander has survived three hurricanes and two decades of use quite well."



The required elevation angle for a small number of F layer hops to the Pacific is quite small.

I seem to recall a QST article [["The Antenna Elevation Pattern -- What's the Big Deal?"](#) March 2010, pages 39 - 40] that noted that the elevation angle of maximum radiation was largely determined by the antenna's height. I wonder if this might be a factor in my lack of success. Since my antenna





is limited to 24 feet (7,3152 m) by homeowners and county rules, the installation has not changed in 32 years - only the results have deteriorated. The decline in the rainfall over the two decades here at my location (I maintain two rain gauges in the back yard) may have changed the apparent ground.

The ground beneath my house and antenna is what the locals call "sugar sand," one-step up from beach sand. Its ability to provide a good ground is akin to pure distilled water. I read some time ago about the relationship of soil fertility, carbon and soil conductivity. Will improving my ground conductivity improve my radiation elevation pattern? Your thoughts would be appreciated.

Here is what the Doctor had to say:

A better ground will certainly change the elevation contour of your antennas due to reflections - in phase for vertical antennas (reinforcing the low angle radiation) and out of phase with horizontal (tending to cancel the lowest angles); however, the major impact will occur at some distance from the antenna. The exception is for vertical antennas that use the Earth as part of their ground system - their efficiency will improve with better conductivity near the base - independent of the reflection part of the equation.

Your height of 24 feet (7,3152 m) is interesting for a tribander. That is about 0.35 wavelengths on 20 metres, just above 0.5 wavelengths on 15 and about 0.7 wavelengths on 10 metres. Over EZNEC's "Typical ground" (0,005 S/m conductivity, dielectric constant of 13), that gives the results in Table 1 below on the 10 and 20 metre bands based on my model of a similar tribander.

Band (Metres)	Peak Elevation (degrees)	Gain at Peak (dBi)	Gain at 5 degrees (dBi)	Gain at 10 degrees (dBi)
20	35	8,2	-3,9	1,7
10	20	11,9	4,2	9,3

Table 1: Peak Gain and Gain at Elevation Angles for a 24 foot (7,3152 m) High Yagi over EZNEC "Typical" Ground

The results for 15 metres will be in between. If your ground is less conductive, it will actually be better (less cancellation at low angles); however, you will not get as much reinforcement at the peak angle at which the reflection is in phase. The extreme would be the "free space" case in which there is no ground at all. There the peak is at the horizon and you have the results shown in Table 2 below.

Band (Metres)	Peak Elevation (degrees)	Gain at Peak (dBi)	Gain at 5 degrees (dBi)	Gain at 10 degrees (dBi)
20	0	4,7	4,6	4,7
10	0	6,9	6,9	6,9

Table 2: Peak Gain and Gain at Elevation Angles for a 24 foot (7,3152 m) High Yagi in Free Space

Thus, with a low horizontal antenna, the long haul performance will be better with a poor ground than with one of high conductivity. This will change as the antenna gets high enough so that the angle of peak gain gets close to the optimum angle for the distance you want to work. This angle will be quite small for few hops to the Pacific - typically a 6 000 to 10 000 mile (9656 to 16093 km) path. As seen in Figure 1, even at 5 degrees elevation, it will take two to four hops to get there. Again, this is not the ground directly under the antenna, but the ground from which the reflection takes place, some distance away. The higher the antenna is, the further the distance to the ground that will reinforce the peak of the elevation pattern.

Thanks Doctor! Do you have a question or a problem? Look for "The Doctor Is IN" every month in QST, the official journal of the ARRL.





Russian Military OFDM on 40 m

The November issue of the IARU Monitoring System (IARUMS) newsletter reports that the Russian military have been transmitting on 7 000.8 kHz using OFDM112

The International Amateur Radio Union Monitoring System (IARUMS) Region 1 November 2011 newsletter at <http://www.iarums-r1.org/iarums/news2011/news1111.pdf>

The Intruder-Logger is open to all users worldwide. You can store your intruder observations in real time mode! Do not forget to use this system and read the entries from all parts of the world! <http://peditio.net/intruder/bluechat.cgi>

Monitor the short wave bands on-line with a web based SDR receiver at <http://sdrspace.com/> and <http://www.websdr.org/>

Approved IOTA Operations

Fred, IK7JWX, reports that the following operations during the period of August to October 2011 have provided acceptable validation and are therefore approved for IOTA credit: 5C2B (AF-068), 5C2J (AF-068), 5C2P (AF-068), 5C2S (AF-068), CN8QY/P (AF-068), MMORAI/P (EU-189), 4W6AA (OC-232), YB9WZJ/P (OC-239), YBOMWM/9 (OC-239), PQ8OP (SA-045) and PQ8XB (SA-045).

African DX

Swaziland, 3DA. The Secunda ARC is busy planning their DXpedition to Swaziland. The dates are 3 to 13 April 2012. All the equipment required must be transported from Secunda to Swaziland and the team will be on the air 24 hours a day as they did in the previous DXpeditions to Lesotho, Mozambique, Botswana and Luxembourg.

Gert Botha, ZS6GC, says they are in need of CW operators. If you would like to join the Secunda ARC in Swaziland, contact Gert by 6 January 2012 as he needs to make reservations. You are all very welcome..... Each person is responsible to pay his/her expenses.

Contact Gert at gertb@cybersmart.co.za (home) or gert.botha@sasol.com (work). You can visit the Secunda ARC web site at <http://www.secradio.org.za/src>

African Islands

Reunion Island, FR. Jean, F6CAM is active as FR/F6CAM until 10 January 2012. Activity is on all HF bands. QSL to home call.

Mayotte, TO4. Operators Giovanni, IK5BCM, Giuseppe, IK5CBE and Giovanni, IK5CRH will be active as TO4M from Mayotte between 28 January and 5 February. Activity will be on 80 - 10 metres using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via IK5CRH.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 12 to 19 December 2011.

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint
01:30 UTC-03:30 UTC, Dec 14
Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m
Classes: (none)
Max power: 5 watts





Exchange: RST, state, province or country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member

2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 17 December 2011

E-mail logs to: naqcc33@windstream.net

Upload log at:

<http://naqcc.info/sprintlog.html>

Mail logs to: John Shannon, K3WWP, 478 E. High St., Kittanning, PA 16201, USA

Find rules at:

<http://naqcc.info/sprint201112.html>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC, Dec 14

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and state, province or country and name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 15 December 2011

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

CWops Mini-CWT Test

13:00 - 14:00 UTC, Dec 14 and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC, Dec 14 and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC, Dec 15

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: Member: Name and member no; non-Member: Name and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each call once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 04:00 UTC 17 December 2011

Post log summary at:

<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.cwops.org/onair.html>

NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint

18:00 - 20:00 UTC, Dec 14

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, country and NAQCC no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 2 points per QSO with member

Multipliers: Each country in Europe; First country in each continent worked other than Europe

Key Type Mult: 2 x if straight key, 1,5 x if bug, 1 x if other

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x key type mult

Submit logs by: 20:00 UTC 17 December 2011

E-mail logs to: submitlog@naqcc-eu.org

Upload log at:

<http://www.naqcc-eu.org/autologger/>

Mail logs to: M Ireland MW3YMY, Pen-y-Gadlas, Ffordd Bryniau, Meliden, Prestatyn, Denbighshire LL19 8RD, UK

Find rules at:

<http://naqcc-eu.org/SprintHelp/SprintRules.pdf>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC, Dec 16

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - fox or hound





Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 17 December 2011
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC, Dec 16
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 18 December 2011
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

AGB-Party Contest
21:00 - 24:00 UTC, Dec 16
Mode: CW, SSB, Digital
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or mixed; Multi-Op; Digital; 1 Hour; SWL
Exchange: AGB Member: RST, QSO no and member no; non-Member: RST and QSO no
Work stations: Once per mode per 15-minute period (see rules)

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent
Multipliers: Each AGB member once; Each DXCC/WAE country once
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 13 January 2012
E-mail logs to: eu1eu@mail.ru
Mail logs to: Igor "Harry" Getmann, EU1EU, PO Box 143, Minsk 220005, Belarus
Find rules at:
http://www.ev5agb.com/contest/agb_party.htm

Russian 160-Metre Contest
21:00 - 23:00 UTC, Dec 16
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 160 m Only
Classes: Single Op - youth: born 1989 or later - CW or mixed; Single Op - Other - CW or mixed; Multi-Op - youth: born 1989 or later - CW or mixed; Multi-Op - Other - CW or mixed
Max operating hours: 2 hours
Exchange: RST, serial no, "/" and locator
Work stations: Once per hour, once per mode
QSO Points: Same locator square: 1 point; Adjacent locator square: 2 points; Other locator squares: 3 points
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 17 January 2012
E-mail logs to: contest@radio.ru
Mail logs to: Radio Magazine, 10 Seliverstov per., 107045 Moscow, Russia
Find rules at:
<http://www.qrz.ru/contest/detail/90.html>

RAC Winter Contest
00:00 - 23:59 UTC 17 December
Mode: CW, Phone
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, 2 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op CW; Single Op Phone; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Single - low or high; Multi-Multi
Max operating hours: 24 hours





Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts;
QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: VE: RS(T) and province or territory; non-VE and VE0: RS(T) and serial no

QSO Points: VE/VE0: 10 points; non-VE/VE0: 2 points; RAC official stations: 20 points

Multipliers: VE provinces and territories (13), once per mode per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 January 2012

E-mail logs to: canadawinter@rac.ca

Mail logs to: Radio Amateurs of Canada, 720
Belfast Road, Suite 217, Ottawa, Ontario K1G
0Z5, Canada

Find rules at:

http://www.rac.ca/en/rac/programmes/contests/files/2011_Canada_Winter_Contest_Rules_English_and_French.pdf

Feld Hell Sprint: 00:00 - 24:00 UTC 17 December

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts

QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 1 January 2012

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests>

OK DX RTTY Contest

00:00 - 24:00 UTC 17 December

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op; SWL

Max operating hours: 24 hours

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts

Exchange: RST and CQ Zone

QSO Points: 10 - 20 m: 1 point same continent, 2 points different continent; 40 - 80 m: 3 points same continent, 6 points different continent

Multipliers: DXCC Countries, once per band; OK stations, once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x (DXCC mults and OK mults)

Submit logs by: 15 January 2012

E-mail logs to: okrtty@crk.cz

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.crk.cz/ENG/DXCONTE.HTM>

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party

00:01 UTC 17 December to 23:59 UTC 1 January

Mode: Any

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: Members: Member no, name and state, province or country; Non-Members: Serial no, name and state, province or country; Lighthouse/Lightship: ARHLS no, name and state, province or country

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 2 additional points per QSO with member; 3 additional points per QSO with lighthouse/lightship

Bonus: x2 multiplier for all points if participant activated a lighthouse/lightship

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 31 January 2012

E-mail logs to: (none)

Mail logs to: Dave Ruch, NF0J, PO Box 20696, Bloomington, MN 55420-0696, USA

Find rules at:

<http://arlhs.com/LCL-2011-guidelines.html>

Croatian CW Contest

14:00 UTC 17 December to 14:00 UTC 18 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m





Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - low or high; Multi-Single

Max operating hours: 24 hours

Max power: HP: 100 or more watts; LP: <100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: Own continent: 2 points 40 - 160 m, 1 point 10 - 20 m; Other continents: 6 points 40 - 160 m, 3 points 10 - 20 m; 9A stations: 10 points 40 - 160 m, 6 points 10 - 20 m

Multipliers: DXCC/WAE Countries, once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 17 January 2012

E-mail logs to: 9acw@9acw.org

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.9acw.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47:rules-2009&catid=39:english&Itemid=66

Stew Perry Topband Challenge

15:00 UTC 17 December to 15:00 UTC 18 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160 m Only

Classes: Single Op; Multi-Op

Max operating hours: 14 hours

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 5 - 100 watts; QRP: <5 watts

Exchange: 4-Character grid square

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO plus 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station

Multipliers: Low power: x 1.5; QRP: x 3

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x power multiplier

Submit logs by: 17 January 2012

E-mail logs to: tbdc@contesting.com

Mail logs to: BARC, 15125 SE Bartell Rd, Boring, OR 97009, USA

Find rules at:

<http://jzap.com/k7rat/stew.rules.txt>

ARRL Rookie CW Roundup

18:00 UTC-23:59 UTC 18 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

Classes: Single Op Rookie; Non-Rookies

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: NA: Name, 2-digit year first licensed and state, province, XE area or DX

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-rookie; 2 points per QSO with rookie

Multipliers: Each US state and DC once; Each VE province once; Each XE call area once; One DX once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 21 December 2011

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup-score-submission>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

QRP ARCI Holiday Spirits Homebrew Sprint

20:00 - 24:00 UTC 18 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: All Bands; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands; Multi-Op; DX

Max operating hours: 4 hours

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and ARCI number or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: ARCI Member: 5 points; Non-Member Different Continent: 4 points; Non-Member Same Continent: 2 points

Bonus points per band: 2 000 for HB xmtr, 3 000 for HB rcvr, 5 000 for HB transcvr; 5 000 for battery power portable with temporary antenna (not once per band)

Multipliers: States, once per band; VE Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band

Power Mult: x 1 >5 W, x 7 1 - 5 W, x 10 250 mW - 1 W, x 15 55 - 250 mW, x 20 <55 mW

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult) and bonus points

Submit logs by: 3 January 2012

E-mail logs to: contest@qrparci.org





Mail logs to: ARCI Holiday Spirits, c/o Jim Rodenkirch, K9JWV, 762 Saint James Lane, Saint George, UT 84790, USA
Find rules at:

<http://www.qrparci.org/content/view/8108/118/>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 19 December

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once

Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 26 December 2011

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.fqgrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.fqgrp.org/pigrun/>

Next Week's Contests

Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party, 00:01 UTC 17 December to 23:59 UTC 1 January

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 UTC-03:30 UTC 21 December

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 UTC-03:30 UTC 23 December

RAEM Contest, 00:00 UTC-11:59 UTC 25 December

DARC Christmas Contest, 08:30 UTC-10:59 UTC 26 December

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 12 December 2011.

1593 - The state of Holland granted a patent on a windmill with a crankshaft (14 Dec)

1773 - Boston Tea Party (15 Dec)

1791 - Ludwig van Beethoven receives his first lesson in music composition from Franz Joseph Haydn (12 Dec)

1798 - David Wilkinson of Rhode Island patents a nut and bolt making machine (14 Dec)

1838 - Boers defeat the forces of Dingaan, the Zulu chieftain (16 Dec)

1839 - John William Draper took a daguerreotype of the moon, the first celestial photograph made in the US (18 Dec)

1849 - William Bond obtains the first photograph of the Moon through a telescope (18 Dec)

1843 - "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens published, 6 000 copies sold (13 Dec)

1859 - GR Kirchoff describes the chemical composition of the sun (14 Dec)

1871 - Jules Janssen discovers dark lines in the solar corona spectrum (12 Dec)

1877 - Thomas Edison patents the phonograph (15 Dec)

1880 - The Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek (ZAR) is formed (16 Dec); The Edison Electric Illuminating Company was incorporated for providing electric light to New York City

1897 - First submarine with an internal combustion engine demonstrated (16 Dec)

1899 - Battle of Colenso - Anglo Boer War (15 Dec); Field Marshall Lord Roberts appointed British supreme commander in South Africa (18 Dec)





1901 - Marconi receives the first transatlantic radio signal, England to USA (12 Dec)
1903 - Wright Brothers make first flight at Kittyhawk (13 Dec); first sustained motorised aircraft flight by Orville Wright at 10:35 AM (17 Dec)
1915 - First all metal aircraft, Junkers J-1, test flown at Dessau, Germany (12 Dec)
1953 - Chuck Yeager reaches Mach 2,43 in the Bell X-1A rocket plane (12 Dec)
1955 - First prototype of hovercraft is patented by British engineer Christopher Cockerell (12 Dec)
1961 - Amateur radio satellite Oscar 1 launched with military Discoverer 36 (12 Dec)

Birthdays for the week

Christopher Plummer, 13 Dec 1927 (actor, Sound of Music)
Dick van Dyke 13 Dec 1925 (actor, Mary Poppins, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang)
Sir Arthur C Clarke 16 Dec 1917 (novelist, 2001 Space Odyssey)
Sir Noel Coward 16 Dec 1899 (playwright, composer, actor and singer)
Jane Austen 16 Dec 1775 (novelist, Sense and Sensibility, Pride and Prejudice)
Ludwig van Beethoven 17 Dec 1770 (German composer)
Brad Pitt, 18 Dec 1963 (actor - Troy)
Steven Spielberg 18 Dec 1946 (Star Wars)
Keith Richards 18 Dec 1943 (founder member of the Rolling Stones)

DX Code of Conduct

I will listen, and listen, and then listen again before calling.
I will only call if I can copy the DX station properly.
I will not trust the DX cluster and will be sure of the DX station's call sign before calling.
I will not interfere with the DX station or anyone calling and will never tune up on the DX frequency or in the QSX slot.
I will wait for the DX station to end a contact before I call.
I will always send my full call sign.
I will call and then listen for a reasonable interval. I will not call continuously.
I will not transmit when the DX operator calls another call sign, not mine.
I will not transmit when the DX operator queries a call sign not like mine.
I will not transmit when the DX station requests geographic areas other than mine.
When the DX operator calls me, I will not repeat my call sign unless I think he has copied it in correctly.
I will be thankful if and when I do make a contact.
I will respect my fellow radio amateurs and conduct myself so as to earn their respect.

<http://www.dx-code.org/publications.htm>

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

SARL News





Time (UTC / CAT)	Freq (kHz)		Target Area	Language
06:15 / 08:15 *	7 066 / 7 098	From Pretoria /	Southern Africa	Afrikaans
06:30 / 08:30 *	7 066 / 7 098	Port Elizabeth	Southern Africa	English
Various 2 metre and 70 cm repeaters and Echolink country wide				

Amateur Radio Today

Time (UTC / CAT)	Freq (kHz)		Target Area	Language
08:00 - 09:00 /	7 082	From Durban	Southern Africa	English
10:00 - 11:00 *	Various 2 metre and 70 cm repeaters and Echolink country wide			

Amateur Radio Today shortwave broadcast information.

Time (UTC / CAT)	Freq (kHz)	Tx kW	Target Area	Language
08:00 - 09:00 /	7 205	100	Southern Africa	English
10:00 - 11:00 *	17 760	250	East Africa	English
16:30 - 17:30 /	3 230	100	Southern Africa	English
18:30 - 19:30 **				

* Sunday ** Monday

Amateurradio in Aksie

Dorp	Frekwensie	Tyd en dekking
Bloemfontein	145,600 MHz	Maandagaande 20:30 vanaf die Naval Hill herhaler
Kaap	145,700 MHz	Maandagaande 20:30 in die Boland
Pretoria	145,750 MHz	Woensdagaand net na die ZS6MRK bulletin
Pretoria HF	3 680 kHz	Woensdagaand net na die ZS6MRK bulletin
Rustenburg	145,500 MHz	Maandagaande 20:30
Sasolburg	145,600 MHz	Maandagaande 20:00 dekking in die hele Vaaldriehoek

